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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

August 18, 1994

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

The imminent departure of French forces from Rwanda raises the serious potential for another humanitarian disaster, as refugees flee the safe zone in the face of uncertainty over security during the transition to UNAMIR. We all must work together and make every effort to avoid another humanitarian disaster.

In order to help avert this disaster, we urge you to agree publicly to an extension of the presence, authorized by United Nation Security Council Resolution 929, in southwest Rwanda which would assure a smooth transition to UNAMIR. The Rwandan Government's acceptance of such an extension should reassure those in the safe zone who have security concerns as a result of the transition. We, for our part, will continue to do everything we can to assist the UN in rapidly deploying UNAMIR to facilitate this transition.

We understand you have concerns on this issue but urge you to work with the French on this matter. The government of the United States is concerned that a massive refugee outflow from Rwanda attributed to your unwillingness to allow the French to stay long enough to effect a smooth transition, would reflect

His Excellency
Mr. Faustin Twagiramungu,
Prime Minister of Rwanda,
Kigali.

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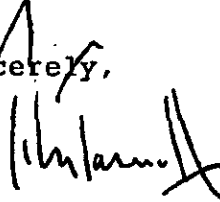
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adversely on your government. As you know, the United States has already committed \$500 million for humanitarian assistance to the Rwanda crisis. It would be difficult for us to sustain this level of support indefinitely which is an additional reason to stem increased refugee outflows from Rwanda.

We want to continue to work with you to help Rwanda recover from this tragedy and move toward peace and national reconciliation, but we need your complete cooperation.

I hope to hear back from you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P. Tarnoff', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Peter Tarnoff
Acting Secretary

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